



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 4, 2012

MR. DAN C. ALLEN
CHIEF ENGINEER
NORTH AMERICAN BUS INDUSTRIES, INC.
106 NATIONAL DRIVE
ANNISTON, AL 36207

NVS-215lrd
12V-189

SUBJECT: LOOSE PINCH BOLTS

DEAR MR. ALLEN:

This letter serves to acknowledge North American Industries, Inc.'s (NABI) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

OPTIMA/OPUS/2007-2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-189

Mfg's Report Date: April 30, 2012

Components: STEERING:COLUMN

Potential Number of Units Affected: 50

Summary:

NORTH AMERICAN BUS INDUSTRIES (NABI) IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2007-2009 OPTIMA OPUS29 AND OPUS34 MODEL TRANSIT BUSES, MANUFACTURED FROM AUGUST 8, 2007, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 21, 2009. THE PINCH BOLTS IN THE STEERING COLUMN SHAFT MAY LOOSEN TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY MAY FALL OUT ALLOWING THE STEERING SHAFT TO SEPARATE.

Consequence:

SEPARATION OF THE STEERING SHAFT WILL RESULT IN A LOSS OF STEERING CONTROL, INCREASING THE RISK OF A VEHICLE CRASH.

Remedy:

NABI WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND REPAIR VEHICLES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MAY 2012. OWNERS MAY CONTACT NABI AT 1-256-831-4296.

Notes:

THIS IS NABI SAFETY RECALL NUMBER 20122. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV).

Please provide the following information:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson, who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, by email at Edison.Thompson@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Timian', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement